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CCACE Advisory Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes April 16, 2021

<u>Present:</u> Demi Ayres, John Ballantine, Ron Bernard, Paula Casey, Claudia Feeney, Marla Iyasere, Carol Murphree, Margo Parent, Jill Weintraub

1. MARCH MINUTES APPROVED BY Claudia Feeney; SECONDED BY Marla lyasere

2. BUDGET

There is still a lag in numbers. We are at a break even place at the moment. Summer music registrations are coming in which will change the #'s, and fall registrations will follow. Again, the money is there, the business office is slow in posting credit card receipts.

3. REGISTRATION UPDATES for Spring/Summer 2021 programs

a. Adult ed:

Registrations continue to come in. We are ahead of last year's March #'s. Collaboration with other communities has had a positive effect.

We have a couple of classes running next week during vacation. We don't need physical space with the online programs which makes it easier to run classes when the school building is closed.

b. Drivers ed:

We have oversubscribed the April vacation drivers ed class with 39 students; 35 is our maximum capacity.

Marla asked if classes will be offered to the over 65 crowd. Some companies give a break on insurance if seniors take advantage of lessons. Jill will investigate specific programs for the 65+ age group. She is aware that AAA offers a program, and doesn't see why we can't put together a program.

We are opening up registrations for summer lessons, offering 4 summer classes. At the moment all summer classes are scheduled on zoom; perhaps we can look into offering one or two in-person.

c. IMSCC:

New, as of this week we have the option to do in-person music lessons; it's exciting and a little scary. We are following protocol and have instrument covers and face masks. All students and faculty have the option to be remote. Debbie sent a survey to the instructors this week to see if they are interested in in-person lessons. Most instructors are not interested in returning to the classroom at this point. It will be instrument specific; piano is easier to hold in-person lessons because both the instructor and student can wear face masks. Brass and wind instruments will be in classrooms rather than in practice rooms, which are smaller and don't have room to spread out. We are also looking into outside options and possible tents in addition to remote lessons.

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In speaking with the Carlisle music director, the present in-person students will most likely continue with in-person lessons as we monitor and adhere to the Department of Ed guidelines.

We cannot inquire if instructors are vaccinated because we are a public institution. Claudia complemented Jill for doing such a nice job in accommodating families with flexibility and offering many options.

d. Village University:

This is the first year we will be offering two classes in June; Ron is offering a one-session program and the other is a 2-session class. This provides a good opportunity to see if people are around and there is an interest.

Many of our outdoor programs will continue through June.

We are not going to offer many summer programs, anticipating camps are re-opening this summer and families are opting for those programs.

Acton is offering summer online programs we may tag onto.

We are sending many more email blasts and they seem to be successful; many people are opening the emails and we are getting registrations from them. Some people are unsubscribing.

4. FALL PLANNING

Stefanie and Jill will take a look at Fall programs next week during vacation when it's quiet in the office. They'll send solicitations for the Speaker Series. This year's Speaker Series had a broad array of topics which was fantastic. We will continue to add more programs, anticipating most classes will be online, and hoping to offer many classes outside. We have until the beginning of August (to determine in-person/online options) when the catalog goes to print.

We are not sure how vaccinations and/or vaccine passports will be handled. The Governor sent a notification last fall that students were required to have flu vaccines, and then reneged after many had been vaccinated.

5. CAN WE TALK FY22 PLANNING:

John has made some good progress and it looks like we have Dan Kennedy as a keynote speaker; we will know for sure in May. He is willing to do at least one session. The structure we have is good, having a keynote and then a panel discussion.

Since we are a little behind from where we want to be with this program, and June is our last meeting of the year, Jill suggested that we have an informal meeting in July to wrap things up before the catalog goes to the printer.

While we are receiving positive feedback from this year's Unconscious Bias participants, the class size has been much smaller. There are more people interested in attending the evening sessions, and we've made a lot of concessions. Having a 5-session program for two

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years that spreads out over the course of the year may have run its course, and we are feeling that it's time to try something new.... having 2-sessions, closer together including a keynote speaker and a panel. We can record the keynote speaker.

- At this point we are assuming Dan Kennedy will be the keynote speaker.
- Program will take place end of October, beginning of November?
- John suggested one of our group to be the moderator of the panel, perhaps Jill? Or John's cousin Ona Ferguson, Senior Mediator at the Consensus Building Institute?
- Tim Reilly recommended that we should have no more than 3 panelists; he would be happy to help us find a graduate student.
- The generation issue is a critical component. Whether it's a graduate student or someone younger. Chris Gauthier, an English teacher and/or Brian Miller, vice principal at CCHS might be able to help determine how to go about this. Do we draft a note to the Humanities Department at the high school and get feedback from the teachers for guidance? Claudia met a young girl in the mentoring program at CCHS who might be a possible panelist, she's now a student at a mid-west college.
- Possible panelists-
 - Ona Furgeson
 - High school or Graduate student
 - Lay person Paul McGinn (Paula's friend, Paula will touch base with him)
 - reporter Kate Merrill?
 - Chris Gauthier
 - Maura Healy
 - Human Behaviorist
 - Someone of color?
- Do we determine the main topics first, or have the speaker determine an overview and recommendations on the direction of the program?
- Format for second session:
 - 2-hour program
 - panelist presentations
 - 10 minute break-out group, returning for a wrap-up discussion
 - BUDGET: Jill spoke with Aiyana Currie, Friends of the Library who has a board meeting coming up and will see if the Library will partner with us.
 - \$2,000 includes speaker, panelists, advertising in Concord Journal, Carlisle Mosquito, online.
 - what to charge? We did a one-night program for \$25.
 - we are restricted to 100 participants in a virtual presentation.

We talked about getting CCHS students, and students from the local private schools involved and possibly seeing if we can incorporate this program into their curriculum. Jill feels that the students are already stretched. We also talked about setting up scholarship

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options for students, perhaps participants can sponsor a student. Possibly the school newspaper can cover the program.

We will need a description for the catalog... Dan Kennedy? We will need to have the keynote speaker, moderator and panelists meet prior to program.

TAKE AWAY:

How do you acquire the skills to walk away with tolerance or an expanded mind?

John suggested reading Anthony Lewis's "Freedom of Thought That We Hate"

ARM CHAIR TRAVEL:

Please do not forget that Claudia needs help with Armchair Travel. She has everything documented for ease of transfer.

NEXT MEETING:
We have changed the dates of our next two meetings:

FROM 5/21 TO 5/14

FROM 6/18 TO 6/11